

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing glass fiber ~~comprising~~comprising:
 - heating and rotating a hollow cylinder-shaped rotating member having ~~peripheral~~ a peripheral wall provided with orifices so as to rotate molten glass in the rotating member, and
 - ejecting the molten glass through ~~orifices~~ the orifices by centrifugal force to form glass fiber, characterized in
 - ejecting ~~molten~~ the molten glass through ~~at least two types of orifices~~ a larger orifice and a smaller orifice arranged alternately in a circumferential direction of the rotating member in the peripheral wall, ~~each of said two types of orifices having different diameter~~, so as to form ~~at least two types of primary streams having different length~~,
 - introducing said primary streams into ~~flame~~ a flame flow around the rotating member, said flame flow being ejected in a direction substantially parallel with a generatrix direction of an outer circumference of the peripheral wall, so as to ~~fine~~ said primary streams to form secondary fibers, and
 - ejecting compressed fluid in a direction at an acute angle relative to the flame flow including secondary fibers, to collide the secondary fibers with the compressed fluid so as to cut the secondary fibers to control a length of the secondary fibers.
2. (Original) The process for producing glass fiber according to claim 1, wherein the compressed fluid is ejected in an angle of 15-30 degree relative to the generatrix direction of the outer circumference of the peripheral wall of the rotating member.

3. (Original) The process for producing glass fiber according to claim 1, wherein a distance between a top edge of the compressed fluid and a bottom edge of the peripheral wall of the rotating member is at least 30 mm.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for producing glass fiber ~~comprising:~~
a hollow cylinder-shaped rotating member having a peripheral wall alternately provided with ~~at least two types of orifices each having different diameter~~ a larger orifice and a smaller orifice in a circumferential direction of the peripheral wall,

a circular drawing burner concentrically arranged above and around the rotating member, and having an ejecting outlet opened in a direction substantially parallel with a generatrix direction of an outer circumference of the peripheral wall, and

an ejecting nozzle around the drawing burner, said ejecting nozzle being concentrically arranged above and around the peripheral wall of the rotating member, and having an ejecting outlet opened in a direction at an acute angle relative to the generatrix direction of the outer circumference of the peripheral wall.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 4, ~~wherein~~ wherein:

~~at least two types of orifices each having different diameter are alternately provided in the peripheral wall in the circumferential direction of the peripheral wall, to form a latitudinal row,~~

~~a plurality of longitudinal orifice rows are provide in the peripheral wall in the generatrix direction of the outer circumference of the peripheral wall, and~~

said peripheral wall has an upper side region and a lower side region, said regions defined in a generatrix direction of an outer circumference of the peripheral wall,

said upper side region is alternately provided with the larger orifice having a first diameter and the smaller orifice having a second diameter in the circumferential direction,

said lower side region is alternately provided with the larger orifice having a third diameter and the smaller orifice having a fourth diameter in the circumferential direction,

~~the orifice in a lowerside region has a diameter smaller than that of the corresponding orifice in an upper side region.~~

said third diameter is smaller than said first diameter, and

said fourth diameter is smaller than said second diameter.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 4, ~~wherein~~wherein:

~~the peripheral wall is provided with larger orifices and smaller orifices,~~

the larger orifices are arranged in the generatrix direction of the outer circumference to form first bands group of orifices,

the smaller orifices are arranged in the generatrix direction of the outer circumference to form second bands group of orifices, and

the first bands group of orifices and the second bands group of orifices are arranged alternately in the circumferential direction of the peripheral wall of the rotating member.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 6, ~~wherein~~wherein:

~~the orifice arranged in a lowerside region has a diameter smaller than that of the orifice arranged in an upper side region in either the first bands group of orifices or the second bands group of orifices.~~

said peripheral wall has an upper side region and a lower side region, said regions defined in a generatrix direction of an outer circumference of the peripheral wall,

said upper side region is alternatively provided with the larger orifice having a first diameter and the smaller orifice having a second diameter in the circumferential direction,

said lower side region is alternatively provided with the larger orifice having a third diameter and the smaller orifice having a fourth diameter in the circumferential direction,

said third diameter is smaller than said first diameter, and

said fourth diameter is smaller than said second diameter.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 4, wherein

a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 5, wherein

a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 6, wherein

a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 7, wherein

a difference in the diameter between at least two types of orifices each having different diameter is in a range of from 0.02 to 0.3 mm.

12. (New) A process for producing glass fiber comprising:

heating and rotating a hollow cylinder-shaped rotating member having a peripheral wall provided with orifices so as to rotate molten glass in the rotating member, and ejecting the molten glass through orifices by centrifugal force to form glass fiber, characterized in

ejecting molten glass through a larger orifice and a smaller orifice arranged alternately in a circumferential direction of the rotating member in the peripheral wall, so as to form two types of primary streams having different length,

introducing said primary streams into flame flow around the rotating member, said flame flow being ejected in a direction substantially parallel with a generatrix direction of an outer circumference of the peripheral wall, so as to fine said primary streams to form secondary fibers, and

ejecting compressed fluid in an angle of 15-30 degree relative to the generatrix direction of the outer circumference of the peripheral wall of the rotating member, to the flame flow including secondary fibers, to collide the secondary fibers with the compressed fluid, so as to cut the secondary fibers to control diameter of the secondary fibers, wherein a distance between a top edge of the compressed fluid and a bottom edge of the peripheral wall of the rotating member is 30-50 mm.

13. (New) The apparatus for producing glass fiber according to claim 5, wherein the first diameter > the second diameter > the third diameter > the fourth diameter.